COMMANDERS DIGEST

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LBJ Signs Bill Extending GI Bill to Vietnam Veterans

President Johnson has signed legislation that extends the GI Bill to Vietnam veterans and increases educational and other benefits.

In Aug. 31 White House ceremonies, the President signed the "Veterans' Pension and Readjustment Assistance Act of 1967" which increased educational entitlements from $100 to $130 a month for single men, $125 to $155 for those with one dependent, $150 to $175 for those with two dependents, with $10 monthly for each dependent over two.

The educational section of the law also includes lesser rates for part-time higher education and a provision allowing high school to be completed without losing credit earned for college.

The direct home loan mortgage level for VA loans when private lending is not available has been raised from $17,500 to $25,000.

A Vietnam veteran is defined as one having served at least 181 days on or after the Aug. 5, 1964, Gulf of Tonkin incident or one discharged for a service-connected disability.

The cut-off date has yet to be determined. Either a Presidential proclamation or a concurrent Congressional resolution can terminate these benefits at some future date.

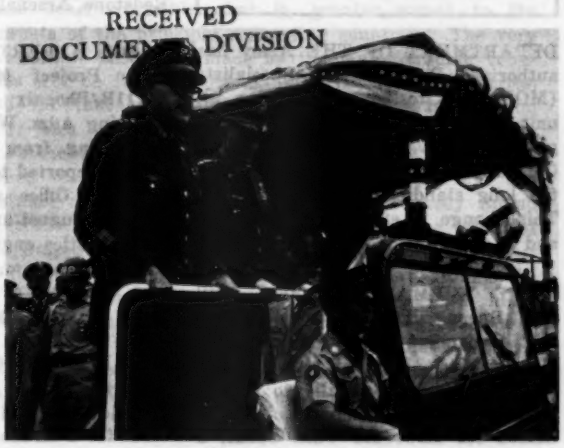
The law also increased all pensions for disabled veterans, widows and children.

Long Beach, Calif., Selected As USS New Jersey Home Port

Navy officials have selected Long Beach, Calif., to be homeport for the battleship USS New Jersey, and announced her skipper will be Capt. Richard G. Alexander, former commanding officer of the guided missile destroyer USS Semmes.

Officials said Long Beach was chosen because its deep harbor will allow the 45,000-ton ship to tie up at a pier. They said adequate housing in the area for dependents of the ship's 1,500 men also influenced the decision.

A 1944 Naval Academy graduate, Capt. Alexander was the Director, Plans Division in the Bureau of Naval Personnel before receiving orders to report to the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard to assist with the re-commissioning of the battleship before taking command.



***INSPECTING THE GUARD**—Gen. Harold K. Johnson (right), Army Chief of Staff, sets out to inspect 11,000 National Guardsmen of the 42d Infantry (Rainbow) Div., accompanied by Division Commander Maj. Gen. Martin H. Foery. The Guard unit celebrated its 50th anniversary with a review in honor of the Army Chief of Staff at Camp Drum, near Watertown, N.Y.*

Senate Armed Services Subcommittee Reviewing Military Housing Program

The entire program of military housing—troop, bachelor and family—is being reviewed this month by a Senate Armed Services Subcommittee following House passage of the FY68 Military Construction Authorization Bill in August.

Department of Defense has requested 72,000 troop and bachelor officer housing spaces, 11,490 housing units in the United States and its possessions, plus 1,010 family quarters overseas.

Troop and Bachelor housing spaces come under a new FY68 "Minimum Standards of Adequacy" that must be met for on-base occupancy:

- For captains (0-3) and above, unshared bedroom, living room and bath, and access to a kitchen.
- For first lieutenants (0-2) and below, unshared combination sleeping room/living room, and a bath.
- For senior NCOs (E-7, 8, 9), private sleeping/living room.

Personnel from E-7 to 0-3 will be permitted to live off-base and draw BAQ when these standards cannot be met and installation commanders determine military necessity does not dictate living on base.

Washington Memos

DEPARTMENT OF THE Army has authorized Personnel Specialists (MOS 71H) to be upgraded on all unit manning documents. The upgrading involves an authorization of Company Clerk E-5, as opposed to the long standing E-4 authorization. This change is effective immediately and is authorized by DA Msg 830119.

NAVY SUBMARINE tender USS L. Y. Spear will be christened at General Dynamics' Quincy, Mass., division, Sept. 7. First of new class of ships designed specifically to service nuclear attack submarines, ship is named for Lawrence York Spear, a pioneer in submarine construction who is credited with being primarily responsible for development of modern submarine.

90TH AERIAL PORT Squadron has been selected as outstanding reserve unit of its type by both 21st Air Force and Military Airlift Command. Awards were based upon evaluation of state of manning, participation, recruiting, general military training, progression, voluntary improvements and capability.

AIR FORCE MAJ. Gen. William W. Veal has been named Commander, Air Force Logistics Command's Sacramento Air Material Area. Gen. Veal, currently Director, Plans and Programs at AFLC headquarters, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, will replace Maj. Gen. Chester W. Cecil who will retire Nov. 1.

AIR FORCE SAYS it is meeting requirements for nurses and medical specialists through regular recruiting procedures. Applications are in such numbers Air Force is selecting on a "best qualified" basis. In fiscal year 1967, the requirement for medical specialists was successfully met and the nurse quota was exceeded by 62.

ARMY COL. ERWIN M. Graham Jr., has assumed command of Army Ordnance Center and School, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. Prior to taking command of USAOC&S, Col. Graham served as Commandant, Army Missile and Munitions Center and School, Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

RADM. ALBERT CLANCY will become Project Manager of Navy's F-111B/Phoenix program Sept. 16, relieving Adm. William Sweeney who is retiring from active duty. Adm. Clancy reported to the F-111 Systems Program Office at Wright-Patterson AFB in August and is currently visiting activities engaged in the F-111B/Phoenix program. His last assignment was with Naval Air Systems Command in Washington, D.C.

AIR FORCE'S Oklahoma City Air Materiel Area, Tinker AFB, has awarded $3.4 million fixed-price contract for B-52 modification services to Boeing Co., Wichita, Kan. Work will be done at Barksdale AFB, Bossier City, La., Castle AFB, Calif., and Westover AFB, Mass.

SINCE THE BEGINNING of the Vietnam conflict, aerial tankers have been credited with saving more than 200 aircraft, according to Cdr. K. R. Hamilton, of the Naval Aviation Safety Center. During one deployment, five A-3 Skywarrior tankers were credited with saving 20 aircraft valued at about $49 million. That much money would be enough to operate and maintain five Skywarriors for 10 years, he said.

ARMY HAS ADVISED commands that large numbers of personnel are arriving at Overseas Replacements Stations with numerous deficiencies in Processed Overseas Replacement (POR) qualifications. DA message 829866 notes that personnel are arriving without required immunizations; lacking qualification in arms; carrying excess clothing not authorized in area of overseas assignment; and without required clothing items. Commands were advised to insure that all personnel, including those on inter-theater transfer, are POR qualified for movement to specific overseas area of assignment.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE Procurement Conference program for fiscal year 1968 is being held in Bismark, N.D. Conference is effort by Defense Department to develop additional competitive sources to meet defense requirements by providing one location for business men and potential contractors to become acquainted with federal procurement and contract processes, business opportunities with the armed services and activities of certain Defense agencies.

SPACE AND MISSILES Systems, Norton AFB, Calif., has awarded $1.4 million initial increment to $4 million fixed-price contract for fabrication of launch control facility to Sylvania Electric Products Inc., Needham Heights, Mass.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON HAS nominated Chaplain (Col.) Ned R. Graves, USA, to become Deputy Chief of Chaplains of the Army with concurrent promotion to the grade of brigadier general.

NAVY HAS RECALLED WAVE Cdr. Grace Hopper to active duty to develop a standardized computer language for Navy. Cdr. Hopper, on special leave from UNIVAC, is recognized as an expert in computer language. Navy says standard computer language will allow them to use newer equipment without reprogramming.

MASTER OF SCIENCE degrees awarded to 115 officers graduating from Air Force Institute of Technology's systems and logistics school. The graduating class — largest ever for the school—included three Navy officers, one Marine Corps officer, eight civilians and officers from Korea and Canada.

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THIS PUBLICATION CONTAINS OFFICIAL INFORMATION, NEWS AND POLICY, DIRECT FROM WASHINGTON AUTHORIZED SOURCES.

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Background for Commanders

TRADE POLICIES FOR THE FUTURE*

The Kennedy Round is a great and far-reaching accomplishment. The major trading nations of the world agreed to cut tariffs on industrial products by roughly one-third, on a most-favored-nation basis. This will be the greatest single generalized reduction of tariff barriers ever negotiated. Its beneficial effects on world trade and on world prosperity will continue far into the future.

The western world—and for that matter many of the developing countries as well—have had a most remarkable record of economic expansion over the past two decades. Nevertheless, trade volume has consistently outrun production by a wide margin.

Between 1950 and 1964, world production of manufactured products grew by 128 percent. For the same years, world trade in manufactured products grew by 210 percent.

Future Trade Policies Recommended

• First, there is the question of tariffs on manufactured and processed goods.

It is becoming fashionable to say that the Kennedy Round will make tariffs so low as to remove them as factors in international trade. I believe that there are a number of things wrong with that proposition. For one thing, not all tariffs will be low. Many items will still be subject to levies ranging upward from 20 percent. Moreover, the nominal height of a tariff does not always reflect its true protective effect. Although it is too early to choose among the many ideas on how another round of tariff negotiations should be organized, we should be clear that we need to go ahead in due course to cut much further into the tariff system.

• A second important area for future trade policy is agriculture.

One of the notable things about the Kennedy Round was that it proved that it is possible to bargain about agricultural protection, even though it continues to be a stubborn problem.

The Kennedy Round has set in motion a system of multilateral aid in food grains. There is little doubt that it will have to be continued and extended.

• The Kennedy Round proved also that it is possible to negotiate about nontariff barriers. Nobody would say, however, that this is a simple and clear-cut area for negotiations. But the nontariff barriers can be as damaging, or more damaging, to the flow of trade as tariffs themselves, and that will require serious discussion in the years ahead.

• Finally, any comprehensive trade policy for the years ahead must give special attention to the trade problems of the developing countries.

To say that is not to agree with the doctrine now being expounded that the Kennedy Round provided virtually nothing for the less-developed countries. The truth is that it went a long way toward providing the most basic benefit possible—that is, greater access to the markets of the principal consuming countries. The very substantial tariff cuts made by the major trading countries will be fully extended to the developing countries, and for that matter without reciprocal reductions on their part.

Furthermore, there were numerous tariff concessions aimed specifically at the developing countries. For one instance of the potential impact of the Kennedy Round on trade with the less-developed countries, the offers of the United States to reduce or eliminate duties will affect 90 percent of the value of present U.S. imports from India.

Nevertheless, the wide disparities between the high-income nations and the poor nations are so great that it is necessary to see what further can be done through trade policy to foster economic growth in the developing parts of the world.

U.S. Policy

The principal outstanding proposal is that Europe, North America, and Japan should provide preferential tariffs in some form for the developing countries. At Punta del Este, in April, President Johnson stated that the United States was prepared in principle to seek agreement with other developed countries on a system of temporary tariff preferences for the developing world.

It seems to us very important that we should not set up a system of preferences which will impede or prevent further movement toward the reduction of trade barriers on a worldwide basis. In other words, the United States believes that any preferential system should be temporary. It should not halt tariff cuts between the major trading nations.

Trade Growth

The developing countries should have the same interest, for in the end the growth of their trade with the rich nations will depend far more on prosperity and economic growth than on tariff preferences.

Second, the United States believes that any preferential system should be generalized to all of the developing countries on the basis of very broad product and commodity coverage. We consider that the fractionalization of trade, either by preferences to some regions and not to others, or by particular tariff arrangements, will only serve further to fragment a world that desperately needs more unity and cohesion.

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* *Excerpts from a recent address by Ambassador Philip H. Trezise, U.S. Permanent Representative to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).*

Army Speeds M-16 Rifle Modification Program

Army is accelerating M-16 rifle modifications with a complete retrofit of the new buffer group already completed and chrome plated firing chambers scheduled to start coming off production lines in September.

"The principal cause of the difficulty in Vietnam was inadequate maintenance," Army stressed Aug. 30 in a statement to Rep. Richard Ichord (D-Mo.) who heads a special House Armed Services Subcommittee looking into M-16 jamming in Vietnam.

Army did say, however, a change from an earlier powder to a new one more consistent for mass production reduced the M-16 system reliability but emphasized a comprehensive review indicated that current modifications are the remedy.

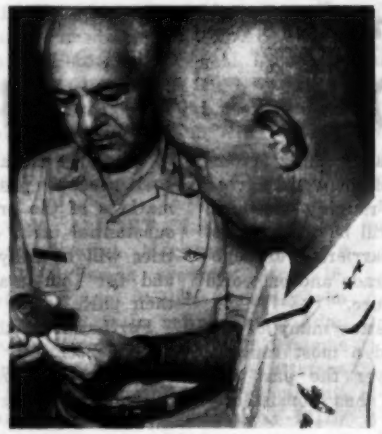
"All available reports from units in Vietnam indicate that through increased training in and emphasis on maintenance of the weapon, the M-16 is performing in a completely satisfactory manner," the Army said.

Air Force Announces F-104 Modification

The Air Force Logistics Command has announced a modification and engine change program for the F-104 Starfighter which will "dramatically improve" the aircraft's performance.

Twenty-seven of the Air Defense Command's F-104s will undergo structural modification and receive newly developed J-79-19 engines under the $7.5 million program.

Air Force Logistics Command officials stated the changes will primarily reduce the time for subsonic climb to 35,000 feet by 33 percent; reduce the time for climb from 35,000 feet to 50,000 feet by 67 percent; reduce the time required for acceleration from Mach .9 to Mach 2 at 35,000 feet by 42 percent, and reduce fuel consumption by 35 percent.



INTERNATIONAL AWARD—Maj. Gen. Charles H. Roadman (right), Commander, Aerospace Medical Div., Brooks AFB, Texas, admires a medallion he has just presented to Col. Joseph M. Quashnock, AMD Vice Commander. The presentation marked Col. Quashnock's selection as a member of the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine, Brussels, Belgium.

Aircraft Communications Via Satellite Under Test

As part of a tri-service test, Air Force engineers are communicating between a KC-135 and B-52 via satellite. Both aircraft have special equipment and test instrumentation installed.

The satellite being used for the tests was launched into an orbit 20,000 miles over the equator, July 1. It drifts from west to east, rises in the west every 12 days, and is visible for about five days before it sets in the east.

The air-to-air tests consist of teletype messages sent between terminals which are up to 10,000 miles apart. The test flights cover the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, North and South America, the polar regions and Europe.

The flights are being conducted over a six-month period by the Air Force System Command's Aeronautical Systems Division, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

USAREUR Education Ctrs. Offer Graduate Degree Programs in Three Fields

U.S. Army, Europe has contracted with Boston University to offer graduate degree programs in Education, International Relations and beginning in January, Business Administration.

Army said these graduate level programs leading to a Master of Arts degree are available at a number of education centers in Europe.

Graduate programs in Education are being offered in Stuttgart, Munich, and in Naples. International Relations programs are offered at Berlin and Heidelberg. They are also scheduled for Mannheim, in January, and will probably be offered in Frankfurt and at Casteau in Belgium.

The Air Force offers graduate-level programs in Aerospace and Operations Management, International Relations, Education, and Public Administration at installations in Europe. The courses are offered by the University of Southern California, University of Oklahoma, and University of Utah.

Tuition assistance is authorized for graduate program as well as undergraduate studies.

Ignatius Sworn In As Navy Secretary

Paul R. Ignatius became the 68th Secretary of the Navy Sept. 1 when he took the oath of office from Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara.

He succeeds Paul Nitze, who became the Deputy Secretary of Defense in July.

Mr. Ignatius has been with the Defense Department since May 1961 when he was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and Logistics). He became Under Secretary of the Army in February 1964. Prior to his Navy appointment, he was Assistant Secretary of Defense (Installations and Logistics).

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